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CSLB #22-07

## Contractors State License Board Promotes Opportunities for Licensed Contractors in Earthquake Brace + Bolt Program

The Contractors State License Board (<u>CSLB</u>) wants licensed contractors to be aware of new opportunities from the Earthquake Brace + Bolt (<u>EBB</u>) program. The program was created by the California Earthquake Authority (CEA) and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The EBB is looking for CSLB-licensed "A" General Engineering and "B" General Building contractors to help retrofit more than a million homes across California.

Contractors with an "A" or "B" license can complete <u>free FEMA online retrofit training</u> to be eligible for the EBB program. FEMA recently awarded \$80 million to fund an additional 21,000 EBB retrofits.

"The Earthquake Brace + Bolt Program helps licensed contractors expand their business while also preparing California property owners for the next earthquake," says Registrar David Fogt.

Contractors who want to join EBB must:

- Have a current and active "A" General Engineering or "B" General Building contracting license in good standing.
- Create an online account and <u>complete registration</u> as a contractor.
- Complete the required <u>free FEMA online retrofit training</u>.

After completing the two-hour training, licensed contractors are added to the EBB Contractor Directory. Homeowners participating in EBB must hire licensed contractors from the Directory unless they are going to do the work themselves. The contractor's listing on the Directory is free and their business is searchable by homeowners looking for a contractor to do EBB retrofit work.

EBB also provides free marketing materials to licensed contractors on the Directory to help them grow their business, including yard signs, EBB brochures, and an "EBB FEMA-Trained" logo to use online.

EBB involves residential seismic retrofits that bolt the house to its foundation and add bracing, if required, around the perimeter of the crawl space making it more resistant to earthquake activity. For more information on the EBB program and how to register, <u>contact EBB</u>.

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